

# MEXICO / *this month*



IN THIS ISSUE: NEW LOOK AT ETERNITY • ABOUT CODICES • MOCTEZUMA'S PLUMES  
**MEXICO** / *this month*

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 mexico

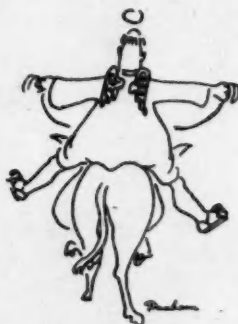
# Tourists \*

Mexico's new 600,000,000 dollar baby



sightsee

\* Are people who (like other people)  
English-speaking residents, businessmen, teachers, students, housewives



go places....



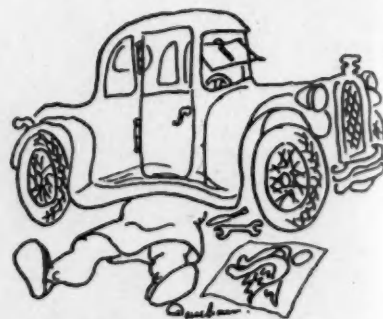
celebrate



buy things



eat



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**MEXICO** *this month*

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## OF SPECIAL INTEREST

July 4. —

Field Day, at the American School to celebrate the Glorious 4th. The American Ambassador will attend the Patriotic Program and will deliver a few words. Races, Carnival rides and other amusements for the children. A dance with orchestra in the afternoon. Food, soft drinks, and stronger drinks for adults. Visitors welcome, the more the merrier. Calle Sur 136, Tacubaya. From 9 AM. to 6 PM.

July 19th — In Juchitán. A festival dedicated to the goddess of the earth (The equivalent of the Greek Ceres). Fireworks and food. Dancing.

July 20 to the 27th. In Oaxaca. A feast in honor of the Virgin of Carmen, known as *Lunes del Cerro* or Monday on the Hill. The famous Plume Dance is executed in front of the Church of the Virgin of Carmen.

July 22 — Tlaxcala. Religious celebrations in honor of Cristo Rey. Caravans of pedestrians climb to the top of the Mountain of Cuatlapanga several miles above sea level. Torches are lit at night that may be seen for miles around.

July 25 — León, Guanajuato. The Day of St. James the Apostle. St. James is greatly venerated in Mexico, and fairs, dances and all around gaiety are enjoyed throughout the Republic. Most of the festivities are held in honor of horsemen and horses. Races, rockets, music and regional dances.



Republic. Most of the festivities are held in honor of horsemen and horses. Races, rockets, music and regional dances.

# Preview

WHAT TO SEE, WHERE TO GO IN

July

## IN THIS ISSUE WE ARE FEATURING

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## JULY climate

City	(F)	(Inches)
	Temp.	Rain
Acapulco	83	8.6
Cuernavaca	68	8.6
Guadalajara	69	10.0
Mérida	81	5.5
México, D. F.	61	4.9
Monterrey	81	2.9
Oaxaca	70	3.7
Puebla	63	5.4
Taxco	70	12.0
Tehuantepec	69	4.9
Veracruz	81	13.8

## fiestas & spectacles

July 6. Tlacotepec, Puebla. A typical native feast. Villagers from the State of Oaxaca, Veracruz and Chiapas, wearing regional costumes, climb to the top of a nearby hill. Bits of wearing apparel, tresses, beads and other personal belongings are placed on a shrine.

July 11th. Anganguero, Michoacán. An elaborate fiesta in honor of miners, also known as the Brotherhood of Miners. A Majordomo is elected each year. New members are registered in a special ledger. Music, eating, drinking and dancing in honor of the new Majordomo.

July 15-31. Mexico City. The feast of the Virgin of Carmen is celebrated in several churches in and around the City, with native dances, fairs, fire crackers, bullfights and other similar diversions, in commemoration of the defeat of the pirates who had occupied the Island of Carmen (on the coast of Campeche) for many years. They were finally driven away on July 16th, 1717.

July 15. Teotihuacán (near Mexico City). A joint festival is held near the Pyramids in honor of the Virgin of Carmen and also for the feast of the Redeemer. Gaiety, dancing, music, and sky rockets.

July 16-25. Oaxaca city. Special rites and diversions in honor of the Virgin of Carmen but most especially in commemoration of Centeotl, the goddess of fruits and corn; Centeotl was greatly revered by the ancient Aztecs. The most outstanding event in this festival is held on the crest of the Hill of El Fortín. Flowers and fruits are exhibited and sold in gaily decorated booths. Special performances of the Plume Dance are held in the main square.

**July 18.** Anniversary of the death of Benito Juárez, considered one of Mexico's greatest presidents and statesman, for over-turning Maximilian's Empire and restoring the Republic. Masonic ceremonies held at his tomb at San Fernando Cemetery.

**July 25. Silao, Guanajuato.** An all-day celebration in memory of Santiago Apostol (St. James, the Apostle) and also for the founding of the city of Silao. Horse-races, cock-fights, allegorical floats, Indian dances and fireworks.

**July 25th. Temoaya, Mexico.** Feast day in honor of the miraculous appearance of St. James. Celebrations include charro contests, horse-races and bull-fights. "Pastorelas", "Moors and Christians" and Matlahchín dances performed in the main plaza. These same festivities are held in other cities in the states of Coahuila, Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Nayarit, Puebla, San Luis Potosí, Veracruz, and in Mexico City.

**July 25-30. Tlaxcala, Tlax.** A fair in honor of Saint Anne. Theatrical events, parades, sport contests, music. Bullfights are given much importance and some of the best toreros are scheduled to fight in the local arena.

**July 25-31. Querétaro, Qro.** noted for its excellent breed of fighting bulls. Bullfights are organized weeks in advance in honor of St. Anne. "Aficionados"

from Mexico City and nearby towns attend the bullfights. Fireworks, battle of flowers, parade, and dancing.

## art

**Jorge Espejo** — The Galerías Romano (José Marroqui No. 5), will display a collection of oil paintings and drawings of the artist in commemoration of his death.

**Rafael Freyre** — Galerías de Artes Plásticas de la Ciudad (At the Alameda Pergola). An exhibition of the works of this famous caricaturist.

**Saúl Moreno Hernández** — (Avenida Juárez 93) an exposition of oil paintings. Galería Pemex.

**Efrén Ordóñez** — Will exhibit his oil paintings at the Galería Diana (Paseo de la Reforma 489) from July 16 to 22.

**Miguel Patiño Solórzano** — (Ave. Juárez 93) Galería Pemex. Oil paintings and etchings.

**Vicente Rojo** — An exhibition of his works at the Galería Proteo (Génova 34. Second Floor).

**Leo Rosshandler** — At the Galería Antonio Souza (Génova 61. Second Floor). The painter's oil works on exhibition.

**Peter Takal** — Will hold an exposition of his works at the Galería de Arte Mexicano (Milán 18).

**Alfredo Zalce** — The artist is holding an exhibit of the works of his pupils, at the School of Plastic Art of Morelia, Michoacán, at Chapultepec Park, near the Monumento de los Niños Héroes.

## music

**July 3** — National Symphony Orchestra's First concert of the season with selections by Beethoven, Stravinsky and Carlos Chávez. Conducted by Luis Herrera de la Fuente. Soloist: Maritza Alemán. Accompanied also by the Choral Group of Bellas Artes. 9 P.M.

**July 4, 12, 19, and 26th.** — A series of concerts will be given by the National Symphony Orchestra at Bellas Artes, organized by members of the Juvenile Musical group. At 5 o'clock.

**University Symphony Orchestra** - A series of concerts every Sunday in July, under the direction of Kasuo Yamada, Muñoz Toca, Juan D. Tercero, and José F. Vázquez. Bellas Artes at 11:15.

**July 10** — National Symphony Orchestra. Guest Conductor, Carlos Chávez. With selections from Brahms, Weber, Ravel and Chávez. At 9 P.M. Bellas Artes.

**July 17** — National Symphony Orchestra. At 9 P.M. at the Palace of Bellas Artes. Selections from Beethoven and Enesco. Guest Conductor, Constantine Silvestri.

**Russian Ballet** — The famous Leningrad Ballet formed by an all-star cast of dancers, will hold their performances on July 6, 8, 9, 11, and 13 at 9 o'clock.

**James Stafford** — Piano Concert at the Salon of the Instituto Mexicano Norteamericano de Relaciones Culturales. Hamburgo 115. At 8:30, July 22.

**July 24** — National Symphony Orchestra at Bellas Artes. 9 P.M. Constantine Silvestri will conduct selections by Tchaikovsky, Rimsky Korsakoff and by Silvestri.

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**Open Air Concerts** — The Symphony Orchestra of Bellas Artes will hold a series of open air concerts every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at Chapultepec Park. Free attendance.

## museums

**Museo Nacional de Antropología** — (Calle de la Moneda No. 13. Around the corner from the National Palace). The finest archeological Museum in the world. Offers as points of interest: the 25-ton Aztec Calendar Stone, the Tizoc stone, the Quetzalcoatl Plumed Serpent, the Palenque Cross, as well as a splendid collection of ancient jewelry, pottery, obsidian jade, ceramics, codices, and many other objects of interest.

**Museo Nacional de Artes e Industrias** — (Ave. Juárez 44). A combination of store and museum where arts and crafts, glassware, ceramics, sarapes and other handmade, and factory made objects from all over the Republic can be found.

**Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno** — At the Palace of Bellas Artes. A permanent exhibition of the murals by the famous painters Orozco, Diego Rivera, Siqueiros and Tamayo. Also paintings by Rodriguez Lozano, and sculptures by Magaña.

**Museo Nacional de Historia** — Chapultepec Castle. The castle where Maximilian and Carlota lived during their ill-fated reign, now turned into a permanent museum, showing their personal belongings, bed chambers, dining room, chinaware. Also portraits of some of Mexico's famous men. Collections of fans, jewels, documents, and other interesting relics.

**Museo Frida Kahlo** — (Calle Londres 127, Coyoacán). A joint collection of the works of Frida Kahlo and her world-wide famous husband Diego Rivera. Some of their personal possessions are also exhibited.

**Museo Clemente Orozco** — (Hamburgo 113). Paintings and sketches by one of Mexico's greatest artists.

## theater

**El Hombre que Hacía Llover** — The Spanish version of Richard's Nash's "The Rainmaker." The cast includes Beatriz Aguirre, José Galvez, Antonio Bravo, Alejandro Cianqueroti and Angel Merino; All good in their parts. Translation by Javier Rojas. At the Teatro Granero (at the back of the National Auditorium. Tel.: 20-43-31). Performances at 8:30, Saturdays at 7:15 and 9:45. Sundays at 5 and at 8.

**Las Cosas Simples** — An amusing comedy of student life by Héctor Mendoza, being performed in a café as part of the show. Directed by Hugo Macías. The cast includes: Humberto Almazan, Diana Gari, Miguel Fernández, and Emilia Carranza. Eighth week. Café la Concordia (Melchor Ocampo 34 and Mississippi). Daily performances at 7:15 and 9:45. Sundays at 5 and 8.

**La Comedie Francaise** — From July 23 to 30, a one-week run at the Palace of Bellas Artes. The famous French Repertory Company will present plays by Moliere and other French classics. Curtain at 9 p. m. All plays in French.

**Los Signos del Zodiaco** — Reopening of the Mexican drama by Sérgio Magaña. Under the direction of Salvador Novo. Sets by Julio Prieto. An outstanding performance by Maria Douglas. Others in the cast are Carlos Fernandez, Pilar Souza, Raul Dantes. At the Teatro del Bosque (at the back of the National Auditorium. Tel. 20-43-32). A daily performance at 8:30. Saturdays at 7:15 and 9:45. Sundays at 5 and 8.

**Teatro Infantil** — Manuel Lozano presents the Wonder World, a weekly change of programs for children. Saturdays at 5. Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and at 5. At the Teatro Casa del Maestro (Naranjo 174. Telephone: 16-04-49).

**Todos Son Mis Hijos** — "All My Sons". The well known drama by Arthur Miller. Under the direction of Seki Sano. An all star cast headed by José Elias Moreno, Virginia Manzana, Wolf Rubinskas, Adriana Roel and Antonio Gama. At the Sala Chopin (Insurgentes and Puebla, Tel. 11-38-17). Daily performance at 8:30. Saturdays at 7:15 and 9:45. Sundays at 5 and 8.

**Sube y Baja Para Dos** — "Two for the Seesaw". The two-role performances at 8:30. Saturdays 7:15 and 9:45. Sundays at 5 and 8. Closed Mondays. (Insurgentes Theater 1587. Tel. 24-58-91). With the musical comedy vedette Silvia Pinal.

## sports

**Boxing** — Arena Coliseo, Perú 77. Fights are Mondays and Wednesdays starting at 9 pm. Saturdays a card is scheduled at the larger Arena México, Dr. Río de la Loza 94, at which time the Arena Coliseo closes.

**Baseball** — The newly formed Pan American Professional Class AA Baseball League, will hold the following games in Mexico City at the "Seguro Social" baseball park on Avenida Cuauhtemoc: "Mexico Rojos" of the "Mexican League" is scheduled to meet "Victoria" of the "Texas League" July 25, 26 and 27 and "Corpus Christi", July 32.

**Frontón Metropolitano** — Bahía de Todos Santos 190. Women players using rackets billed here. Matches Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 4:15 pm. On Mondays play gets going at 4:30 pm. There is no program Thursdays.

**Frontón México** — Ramos Arizpe y Plaza de la República. Matches daily except Mondays. Tuesdays and Wednesdays the card starts at 7:30 pm. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, match time is 6 pm.

**Soccer** — Estadio de la Ciudad de los Deportes on Avenida Insurgentes South. Matches are held Sundays at noon between the teams in the Major Soccer League. A preliminary is offered at 10 am. Sometimes games are offered Wednesdays and Thursdays night.

**Bicycle Road Races** — The Federal District Bicycle Association promotes the following road races: July 5, Circuito Satélite on 150 kilometer route. July 12, Circuito Taxqueña, on a 160 kilometer route. July 19, México-Tepetitl-México, on a 150 kilometer route and July 26, Circuito Satélite on a 150 kilometer route.

**Wrestling** — Arena Coliseo, Perú 77. Matches on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30 pm. Sundays at 5 pm.



## horses

**Charros** — Mexican Charros work out every Sunday morning at 11 am. at the following ranches:

**Rancho "La Tapatía"**, Calzada del Molino del Rey near "Los Pinos", the President's residence.

**Rancho "Del Charro"**, on Avenida del Ejército Nacional.

**Rancho "Grande de la Villa"**, at the foot of Los Indios Verdes, entrance off the Laredo Highway.

**Rancho "Santa Anita"**, Calzada de la Viga, Santa Anita, D. F.

**Hipódromo de las Américas** — Lomas de Sotelo, Mexico City. Racing Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays with the first parade to the post at 2 pm. Eight race program. Selection "1-2" in second and last races. Quinielas on fourth and sixth races. Pari mutuel betting machines available. Puett starting gate. Automatic Photo Chart camera at the finish line. The top races for July are: The Fifth "Creadores Mexicanos" Handicap for 2 year olds born in Mexico, for a 35,000 pesos added purse, at a 5½ furlong distance, to be run July 12. On July 19, the Third Santa Susana Classic will be run by 3 year olds for a 25,000 added purse at a six furlong distance. The track is 6½ furlongs long.

## sundry

**Cock Fights** — Daily starting at 6:30 pm. "El Palenque" Arena, opposite "El Toreo" Bullring on Cuatro Caminos, Estado de Mexico. Betting allowed.

**Midget Auto and Motorcycle Racing** — Pista de Copilco, 400 meter oval. American and European stock cars participate.

## bullfights

**Professional Bullfighters**, and "Stars of the Ring", leave Mexico City during the rainy season to attend their bookings in other cities in Mexico and South America.

Novice bull fighters are then given an opportunity to perform in the two Mexico City bull rings. These up-and-coming bull fighters are called *Novilleros* and they fight two-year-old bulls. After performing for two seasons, they are accepted as regular *Toreros*, and given the "Alternative", that is, the right to fight along side the *Matadors*.

Bull fights always start at 4:30 on the dot. And the feast days of St. Anne, St. James and the Virgin of Carmen are great bull fighting days, especially in the city of Mexico, Querétaro and León, Gto.

Visitors can obtain information or check on their favorite bullfighters at the Information desk at any of the hotels. Take your rain coats and umbrellas.

## OF SPECIAL INTEREST IN COMING MONTHS

**August 6. Saltillo, Coahuila.** Feast honoring *El Señor de la Capilla*. People from neighboring states attend the feast, wrapped in the famous striped sarapes manufactured in Saltillo.

**August 6. Lagos de Moreno, Jalisco** In the hope of bringing abundant rain for their crops, the villagers celebrate the feast of the *Señor de Chipinque*. The statue of the saint is carried through the fields, and under triumphant arches decorated with flowers which have previously been set.

**August 10 to 15. Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas.** Assumption Day is celebrated in Tuxtla with pomp and devotion. Musicians come from nearby towns take part in the event. The statue of the Virgin is brought from another city and placed alongside the Tuxtla Virgin to "accompany" her during the festivity which usually lasts until all through the night of the 15th.

**August 22 — Córdoba, Veracruz.** The City celebrates the "Treaty of Córdoba" when Emperor Iturbide of Mexico and O'Donoghue the last viceroy to Mexico, signed a treaty declaring Mexico an independent country and no longer under Spanish rule.

**September 1 to 8th — San Bartolo Nahuacalpan, State of Mexico.** Feast in honor of the Virgin of Remedios. The image of the Virgin was brought to Mexico by Hernan Cortes when he came to conquer the Country in 1519. The image was the first Catholic relic brought to Mexico.

**September 7 to 16. — In Ciudad Juárez** (Across the Rio Grande from El Paso). A nine day celebration, known as the "Cotton Fair". Allegorical floats with pretty señoritas roam the streets, poor children are given presents and candy and cotton materials for clothing. A large exposition of cotton goods and other products is held in the main square.

**September 16 — Independence Day.** — A general rejoicing all over Mexico that could be compared to July 4th in the U.S. Also called, "The Birth of the Nation Day". Speeches, parades, fairs, carnivals, music, rockets and everything that a fiesta means. At midnight, the President of the Republic stands on the balcony of the Government Palace facing the vast Zócalo, and proclaims the "Grito" — The Cry of Independence that Miguel Hidalgo, Father of the country, launched in that memorable night of September 15th, 1810.

## Hipódromo de las Américas

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# this month IN ACAPULCO

JULY IS A GOOD MONTH for Acapulco. Summer rates are in effect, a fact always conducive to relaxation certainly... and the myriad facets of this exciting port come into focus. The weather, surprisingly enough, begins to cool.

Hunting: wild cat, boar, deer, quail, wild turkey, wild pig (jabali), and other animals are available, but it's wise to check with the authorities regarding permissible arms, licenses, and seasonal limits.

Fishing: tournament entries are warming up for the big fall runs, but plain old tourists have fun too, angling for everything from sea turtle to the game and gorgeous black marlin. Sailfish are abundant as well, as are grouper, bass, perch, jewfish, barracuda, mackerel, sierra, red and gray snapper, halibut, pampano, and other dainties are delectable on the line as they are on the supper table.

Swimming: a beach for every taste. Caleta and Caletilla are the morning beaches and though they slightly resemble a cross between Waikiki, Coney Island, and Tahiti, they are delightful in the early hours. Roqueta across the way is ideal for catamaran or paddle board fans yearning for a bit of fish cocktail (ceviche, to the initiated) or fried perch washed down with incomparable Mexican beer. Hornos, along the bay, is the afternoon beach. Farther along are Condesa and Icacos but they are less for swimming than for viewing. Revolcadero, at the Pierre Marqués, is savagely inviting open sea, flanked by a heron-dotted lagoon and further adorned by the pleasant and gracious Pierre Marqués beach club. Pié de la Cuesta beckons the sundown fans, again for viewing but certainly not for swimming. The sunsets are magnificent and the setting is strictly South Seas, as romantic as one could want. Take insect repellent so as not to be distracted from the setting.

Golf: a fine country club, 18-hole course, magnificent palm-lined and breeze swept surroundings.

Skiing and skin diving: a first rate Ski Club with all facilities, as well as other ski schools and hotel ski instruction with private piers and boats. Skin diving equipment may be purchased or rented.

Bay tours: any hotel travel desk or travel agency can arrange a tour of the bay by day or night, with or without luxury appointments and refreshments. Some of the yachts are world famous, and as, beautiful as a yacht should be.

Tennis: the country club offers good courts and Teddy Stauffer is planning to install a Racquet Club, designed to cater to the tennis bums and court elite of three continents.

Beach combing: hammocks on the shore rent for fifty centavos (four cents U.S.) per night for travelers so inclined. There are plenty of shells to pick up, perhaps another beachcomber to pick up, and there are little social demands on those moving in this stratum. A hotel, however, in spite of certain requisites, is to be preferred, and Acapulco boasts several first rate hotels. There are also hostleries with less than first-rate tariffs and all the required services.

Night life: night clubs on the hilltops, cantinas on the back streets, thatch-roof cabarets on the beach... Acapulco has an infinite variety of entertainment and atmosphere for the drinkingly inclined. It offers as well a smattering of about the hotsy-totsiest places to be found anywhere, most notably in a few of the swankier hotels. These are for the social-conscious who don't want to admit that Miami is behind them. And for our above-mentioned beachcombers there are the coco-loco cocktails served on the sand, with a palm mat for a cocktail table and the very special tropical sun of this Pacific paradise for a canopy.

FOOTNOTES: Acapulco now features 8,000 registered rooms, 134 hotels, plus more than two thousand rooms in private homes. Another thousand hotel rooms near completion. Filling these is quite an order so prices cover a wide range, as might be expected. The more modest establishments are the most cooperative. Acapulco, due to this extreme quantity of accommodations, is opening its arms and will welcome YOU.

ALSO OF INTEREST: game fishing and golf tournaments are scheduled for this coming fall. The Acapulco Hotel Association has details.

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# From our readers

## HEARTS AND FLOWERS

Each time that I see a copy of Mexico-this month, the warm memories of a very pleasant afternoon with you come flooding back. The desire to return to Mexico is instilled in each tourist, but I have gotten a double dose. Those quiet moments in Mexico and those not-so-quiet moments at the bull-fights were thrilling. The constant reappearance of your magazine has convinced me how much I miss Mexico.

Elizabeth Posner  
3750 Oliver St.  
Washington, D. C.

So... come back, little Sheba.

## GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

Thank you! I received the sarape today, (which I ordered some time ago) and I am thereby able to disprove statements made by some "doubting Thomases" to the effect that merchandise could not be ordered and obtained by mail from Mexico! I have been ordering very fine 35 mm. slides from a man my husband and I met only casually without any exchange of references whatever before we left Mexico for our home. I know enough about human nature to know that might not always work out but apparently the gentleman decided our check would be good just as we thought we would receive the slides in return for our check; so chalk up two more "good neighbors" for your program of better relations!

I would like to add Amen to the idea the little girl had about the U. S. Government teaching some of our citizens how to act before they go to visit Mexico, for any place else from what I have heard. My husband and I have made us wish we were not so obviously "norteamericanos" at that particular moment.

Mrs. W. R. Brockman  
28 North Seventh St.  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

That's what we've been saying all along.



Vol. V, No. 7, July, 1959

**MEXICO/this month** EDITOR  
ANITA BRENNER

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I am assistant librarian of the Ratón, New Mexico Library, and through the courtesy of some generous person, (I hope it was my son) our library has received your magazine. I certainly am glad it is printed on good paper otherwise it would be so worn before it reached me through the Mexico files in our library.

My son who attends Mexico City College—[God grant he graduates this year] thought I needed company, so he bought me a bi-lingual double yellow headed opera singer parrot. The next year he brought home an Amazon parrot for himself. They seem very happy in my home, but unfortunately neither of them swear. I am doing my best to correct this deficiency and I often think which of the three is the retarded one.

Mrs. Sheridan Burch  
336 Chiorica  
Ratón, New Mexico

Our Cover: A fragment of an ancient Bodleian Codex is seen in detail. For more on prehistoric word-pictures, see pages 7, 16, and 17



PHOTO CREDITS: Page 7 A. Woolfolk; p. 10 right center Museo Nacional de Antropología, lower left Juan Rulfo; p. 11 upper left Amerind Foundation; p. 14 A. Woolfolk.

This little hook (MTM's sign), swiped from the Aztec codices, means words, music, wind and waves.





Dr. Caso...

WHAT STARTED OUT to be a formal conversation and interview with Dr. Alfonso Caso, Mexico's great archeological scholar and digger-upper of buried treasure all over the place, became the oddest, most enchanting piece of person-to-person reporting we've ever midwived anywhere. Even including the days of our years with the New York Times, when we used to get sent to talk to prodigies and celebrities such as winning horses. For example: how did Whirlaway's neurosis get cured so that he became the fastest?

But this time it was the other way around. Our ultimate authority, having suggested that since he was pretty busy he couldn't possibly write us a piece, but he'd be happy to answer questions, so why not make a written list out of which, answering which, the same as an article would emerge. But, we said, appreciating his helpfulness, the truth is Dr. Caso we just don't know enough about the subject of Codices (that is, ancient manuscripts) to make up any questions worth your time answering. Oh well, the great man said, that's easy, I'll ask the questions and then I'll give the answers and presto we have it; and if you want to put in anything—or don't like what you're being made to say, why just speak up.

Whereupon the secretary, duly buzzed for, appeared equipped not only with pencil and so on but also with speed. And the interview charmingly proceeded, with your editor sitting back in luxury and edification. Moreover, with us was the novelist Juan Rulfo, our favorite photographer, (and tops anywhere for poetry with lenses) duly equipped; so the interview was—see above—duly recorded and we were all very pleased with ourselves.

person  
to  
person



This historic occasion (and most of the July issue) grew out of some beautiful color-plates, Persian tapestry-like, that we glimpsed at our printer's. What were they? Pages from ancient Mexican hieroglyph books, about to be published by Dr. Caso. So we quick got permission to use a fragment on our cover and the story as our big piece this month, which led us to the bright idea of building a considerable portion of our issue on things archeological, there having been several spectacular discoveries lately; and new highways making the classic splendors yet more easily accessible.

Archeologists being very amiable people usually, no doubt because they spend so much time alone, they were all very helpful and we think we have not only given you the elements of some absorbing traveling but also a pretty good little blueprint of where everything is and what it's supposed to be. A glance at the map will describe why this was a preposterous undertaking; what we needed to give you is an encyclopedia, the numbers, varieties, and themes are so many and fascinating besides.

Well anyway on page 16 there are the Adventures of Mr. B Deer, with translation by Dr. Caso from the Bodleian Codex. And if you want to try reading some hieroglyphs by yourself, you'll note the idea really isn't so mysterious. You read (says Dr. Caso) from bar to bar (like a comic) but first from the right and then up and from the left and so on; follow the lines, and when they close up on you this is the end. The top bar is footnotes, or marginal commentary. Next time, Dr. Caso heina the original buried treasure whiz (he found the famous Monte Alban jewels)



... interviews Dr. Caso

we're going to ask for the codices to be followed when we set out once and for all. for the Bush, and who knows what, besides jade and turquoise and exquisitely wrought gold, we will bring home, to the honor of 18 Tiger, 3 Rabbit, 7 Humming Bird and 2 Caso.



Excitement among the cognoscenti and intelligentsia generally, as we go to press, is a large argument about the story in Mexico's prizewinning entry at Cannes, *Nazarin*. Directed by Luis Buñuel, savagely tender maker of ditto films (*Los Olvidados* is probably the best known) *Nazarin* plays upon the old theme of what happens to people who mean it about being Christians. There is a grim Mexican saying that, "Who tries to be Christ gets crucified," but the film isn't quite so obvious as this. It raises a lot of questions, in Gabriel Figueroa's always poetic photography and whether or no theologians will three-star or index it is still potential news.



Potential news too, if you happen to pick it up from follow-up stories, is what's behind the bit of piracy that makes a gangster drama, Cuban twist, in the That episode resume in our News and Comment. Food for much, much, fascinating speculation. Which the Federal Security police here (sort of like the G-Men) have been jigsawing.

## NATIONAL PANORAMA

### ELECTRIC ENERGY FOR THE GROWING MEXICAN ECONOMY

As released to MTM by  
The Bureau of Economic Research of the  
National Financiera, S. A.

**ELECTRIC ENERGY** generating capacity expanded again in 1958 to 2.6 million kilowatts, as a result of additions to plant and installations by both public and private enterprises in the field. Capacity grew 13 per cent last year, exceeding the annual average of 10 per cent scored since 1950. Output in turn rose 8 per cent, to 9,098 million kilowatt-hours, which meant an increase of 6 per cent in per capita electric energy consumption.

There are 2,623 plants operating in the country, belonging to 2,140 firms. Hydroelectric plants account for 45 per cent of capacity, and the rest are thermoelectric, including steam generated units which account for 42 per cent of total capacity and diesel plants which represent 10 per cent.

Twenty per cent of the plant is located in the industrially advanced State of Mexico (537,567 kilowatts), which together with Puebla (388,033 KW), Veracruz (233,083 KW), and Michoacán (177,284 KW) have 50 per cent of the total.

Last year's expansion included the inauguration of the third thermoelectric unit (82,400 KW) in Lecheria, State of Mexico, in the Mexican Light and Power Company's plant. This will be the largest thermoelectric plant in the country on completion of the fourth unit, now being installed, making a total of 230,800 KW.

The Impulsora group (associated with American and Foreign Power Co.) last year installed plants in Puebla, Celava, Aguascalientes, Durango, Mérida and Tampico as well as a number of mobile units, adding 93,000 KW to the country's total.

The Government-owned Federal Electricity Commission opened new plants in Gómez Palacio, Durango and in Acapulco, and pressed forward 19 projects which will add 770,000 KW of power capacity within 4 years.

Almost 2,700 localities have electricity, covering 36 per cent of the population. Seventy per cent is consumed by industry, trade and agriculture in the growing economy.

## News and Comment

THE PRESIDENT OF INDONESIA, Ahmed Sukarno, was met with a 21-gun, red carpet reception when he came to Mexico recently.

The visit was not only formal. The Indonesian leader was the kind of a man Mexicans like: a warm personality, an imaginative idealist, an effective and determined ruler. His country also has a big historical factor-in-common with Mexico, since both nations threw off colonialism to gain their national existence.

The visit was the first official one to this part of the world from an Asian president. It was no mere social call. President Sukarno and Mexican President Adolfo López Mateos found time for business talks on the possibility of trading, for instance, Mexican cotton for Indonesian rubber.

**EAST MET EAST** during the Sukarno visit. The Maharaja of Mysore also stopped off in Mexico, on the finale of a Latin American tour. The Indian potentate, his cream-colored robe set off by diamond-studded buttons, interrupted his round of art museum and movie studios to look in on the big formal reception given for Sukarno.

**BEFORE THE EXPROPRIATION** of oil properties in Mexico in 1938, the British made up one of the most important foreign colonies here. But in the days of high nationalism, most of the 9,000 families went back to their homes in the United Kingdom, and those who remained pretty well had to shift for themselves, either striking out on their own or going to work for Mexican firms.

Better days came after the war, when again Mexico began encouraging foreign capital. Britain had its own postwar recovery problems, but bit by bit pounds began coming back into Mexico. Their recovery has almost reached the comeback point. Auto plants, textile mills, distilleries, and dozens of other "partnership" industries are bringing old-line British trade names to Mexico as never before.

The most significant break-through in Anglo-Mexican business relations in recent days was the signing of a \$10 million credit agreement between Pemex and British petroleum equipment manufacturers. The agreement puts Great Britain back, in at least a secondary sort of way, in the Mexican oil business that was first developed many years ago by such empire marchers as the adventurous English tycoons,

Lord Cowdray, and the Irish-Americans Doheny and Sinclair.

**LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!** The scene is a dark corner in a quiet residential section of Mexico City. Waiting nervously in a sedan is a blonde and her companions. Camera moves close-up to the dashboard clock: 9:30. Someone whispers: "Here they come!" A pink sedan rolls up alongside, and a swarthy, darkly-hand-some man partly hidden by dark glasses walks casually over to the girl. "You have the money?" She nods, nudging a suitcase at her feet. "Good," he says, lips drawn in a thin line. From inside his coat he pulls a alinty revolver. "Give," says he.

Girl screams: "Doublecross!" Fast flurry of action. Screams, scuffle, shots, more screams, hurried clatter of running, car door slams, engine roars as it races down the street and out of sight.

But it was no movie they were shooting. This melodrama actually happened, in the prosperous Polanco district of the capital. The girl involved was Marilyn Kay Thal,

who had come to Mexico with her husband, Stanley, and a friend to sell nearly four-million Cuban pesos which, they said, fell into their hands when Mrs. Thal's father sold a Florida motel to a Cuban.

Trouble was that the money was in 500- and 1,000-peso denominations, and since ex-Dictador Batista chose to take a large number of these bills with him when he was overthrown last December, and Castro has grey-listed them, their value has dropped sharply. In the U.S. they are now worth only about 16 cents as compared to the \$1 they were good for in the Batista days. In Mexico, the free market price ranges from 32 to 36 cents, depending on how good the black market is. So the Thals stood to pick up a tidy half-million or so—if they'd been able to find an honest money changer. Or so they said.

Instead, Mrs. Thal wound up with a wounded arm, three days in jail, and a fine.

But the worst was that the money-snatcher seemed to have made a getaway, while Mexican police sniffed for clues tying his accomplices and the visitors to well-known contraband operations, which shift from arms to currency to liquor, passports, and other merchandise; using Florida, as well as Mexico, Cuba and Santo Domingo as their bases—some of the same spots where pirates played in the 1600's and 1700's.



The Virgin of Carmen with Infant Child

## in July

27<sup>th</sup>...

GENERAL ALVARO OBREGON, whose death (by assassination) is commemorated on July 27 at his monument on the San Angel-Villa Obregón edge of Mexico City, and throughout the nation, is a figure in Mexico's modern history whose significance grows the more time there is to look at facts, achievements and relationships.

From a beginning as a railroad-union leader in the early 1900's, Obregón grew into, first a political conspirator, then a military man, and finally a statesman, and a great one: humane, realistic, decisive and humorous, as well as very efficient in his homegrown political science. More than any other revolutionary President, except possibly his chief, Carranza, Obregón is responsible for the Constitution of 1917 which blueprinted modern Mexico; and for the inventive, courageous directions which projected a vigorous new era for this nation.

Assassinated by a religious fanatic who blamed him for the Church's decline in national power, Obregón died at a banquet given in his honor in a restaurant since replaced by the Obregón Monument in Mexico City's San Angel. Below: the bloody plate, napkin and glass — photographed a few seconds after the historic murder

16<sup>th</sup>...

THE 16TH OF JULY IS THE DAY OF CARMEN, and in each of the hundreds of neighborhoods, plazas, and towns with Carmen in their name, it is a day of great rejoicing. That goes for people who have Carmen somewhere or other in their names as well.

IN MEXICO CITY the fiesta is celebrated with all the shooting and fanfare that makes for a big time. The area where the "big show" is held is roped off with booths lining the street on both sides. Fireworks, local bands, mariachis and dancing. Lots of fun... in Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, add regional dancing and bullfights... in Coyoacán, a suburb of Mexico City, tent shows and Carnival hoopla... in another suburb, San Angel, add a horticultural show, the crowning of the Queen of the Flowers, charros. Celebration lasts most of the month.



26<sup>th</sup>...

July 26 is when the sun is in just the right position in the heavens to burn a hole in the Pyramid of the Sun (Teotihuacan) heralding in the new year. A professor and party interested in things like that fortified themselves with very good brandy (New Years—remember) and a walking stick as scientific instruments and climbed Teo to find out. See for yourself on page 22 — "The Atlacs Were With Us".



## New look at eternity

RECENT DISCOVERIES HAVE OPENED NEW CHAPTER'S IN MEXICO'S FABULOUSLY RICH PAST. HERE IS A CAREFUL RESUME OF THE KNOWN AND THE NEW ABOUT THE BUILDERS OF THESE ANCIENT TOMBS AND SPECTACULAR PYRAMIDS

by Patricia Fent Ross



One of the greatest and oldest archeological treasures in a private collection (Lic. Gustavo Corona) is this Olmec wrestler. Right is a mask symbolizing the Aztec belief in life after death. The motif is repeated frequently



Where did the first inhabitants of the Americas come from? This is a question that scholars (and would-be scholars) constantly argue and will probably continue to argue for the next hundred years. The commonest theory is that successive migrations of tribes from Asia crossed over a neck of land in what is now the Bering Strait. Others believe that the migrations came from the South Pacific over a series of islands that have since sunk into the sea—with the exception of Easter Island. A more romantic theory is that the people of the mythical lost continent of Atlantis escaped in boats to settle in the Americas, and the Mormons believe that our ancient Indians were descended from the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel.

However, all we really know about the early inhabitants must be deduced from their archeological remains and the ruins of their old cities. For this research, Me-



Beaded and plumed, the sculptured Mayan priest-warrior (left) personifies life-giving and growth



A burial vault found at Casas Grandes, in the state of Chihuahua, showing two large pots and the human bones found in them. The ancient city was formerly covered by the sands of the desert

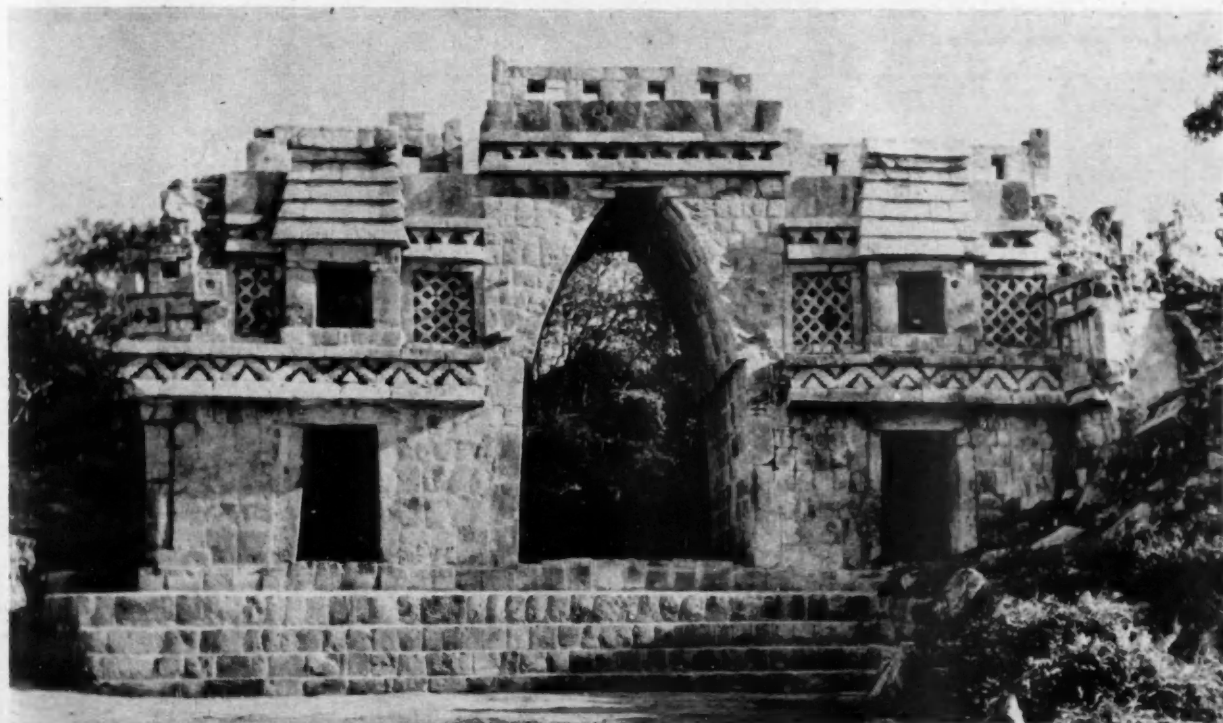


xico is the richest region in the Western Hemisphere. There is scarcely a spot in the southern half of Mexico where one cannot dig up artefacts of the early cultures. There is still much to be learned, but from Mexico's thousands of archeological sites we now know a good deal about her early inhabitants.

At a site near Mexico City, the bones of Tepexpan Man found with primitive tools and bones of prehistoric animals, prove that there were people here as early as fifteen thousand years ago. Over most of Mexico we find pottery and tools of people of the Middle-Culture or Archaic period—a well advanced civilization before

the time of recorded history. This period ended about the time of the birth of Christ and goes back to two or three thousand years B. C.

There are archeological sites in northern Mexico but so far they have told us little about the primitive northern people. But southern Mexico, with its ruins of great



The Arch of Labná, a beautiful example of old Maya Empire formal construction

temples, its fine sculpture, mural painting and hieroglyphic and picture writing, gives a much clearer record.

The Maya, one of the greatest of the Indian people, inhabited a large area extending from the Peninsula of Yucatan down through the present states of Tabasco, Campeche and Chiapas, and over the eastern half of Guatemala and parts of Honduras. The earliest recorded Mayan dates are around the time of the birth of Christ, but their very accurate calendar figured time from the third millennium B.C., so it is quite possible that Mayan people have occupied this region for five thousand years. The various tribes of present day Chiapas are probably offshoots of the Maya, as indicated by their languages and their oldest ruins. The famous murals of Bonampak are Mayan although they are in the rain forest now occupied by the Lacandonones. The finest of the great Indian architecture is found in the Mayan country.

The Olmeca, "people of the rubber country", one of the most mysterious of Mexico's ancient people, occupied the land along the Gulf coast of what is now southern Veracruz. The marvelous sculptures of La Venta and Tres Zapotes belong to this very advanced culture. Other im-

portant tribes of the Gulf coast are the fairly numerous Totonaca in northern Veracruz and the Huasteca in Tamaulipas. The most important ruins in this area are at the extensive and only partially excavated site at Tajin, near Papantla. The great seven-tiered pyramid with its deep exterior niches, is the only one of its kind so far excavated in Mexico.

Oaxaca was occupied chiefly by two powerful tribes, the Zapoteca and the Mixteca. Mitla with its wonderful architectural carvings belonged to the Zapoteca, and Monte Alban, the most extensive and important ruin in the south, was occupied successively by both tribes.

Present day Tarascan Indians live mostly in the region of Lake Patzcuaro in Michoacan, but their rich archeological remains extend west to the Pacific coast of Colima. In the West the Tarascan influence overlaps with that of other tribes, some possibly related and others probably of Toltec or Aztec origin.

Mexico's richest region historically centers in the lush Valley of Mexico with its high surrounding plateau. A succession of lakes used to cover a large area in the northern half of the Valley and the whole region is watered by rivers originating in

the high snow-capped mountains. This plenty of water and a fine climate made it one of the most productive regions in Middle America, and therefore the mecca of many migrating tribes. The great Aztec city of Tenochtitlan, which is now Mexico City, was built on two islands in the large central Lake Texcoco. Several cities that once flourished on the shores of the lake are now suburbs of Mexico City. There are important archeological sites of several successive cultures that in turn occupied and dominated the Valley of Mexico.

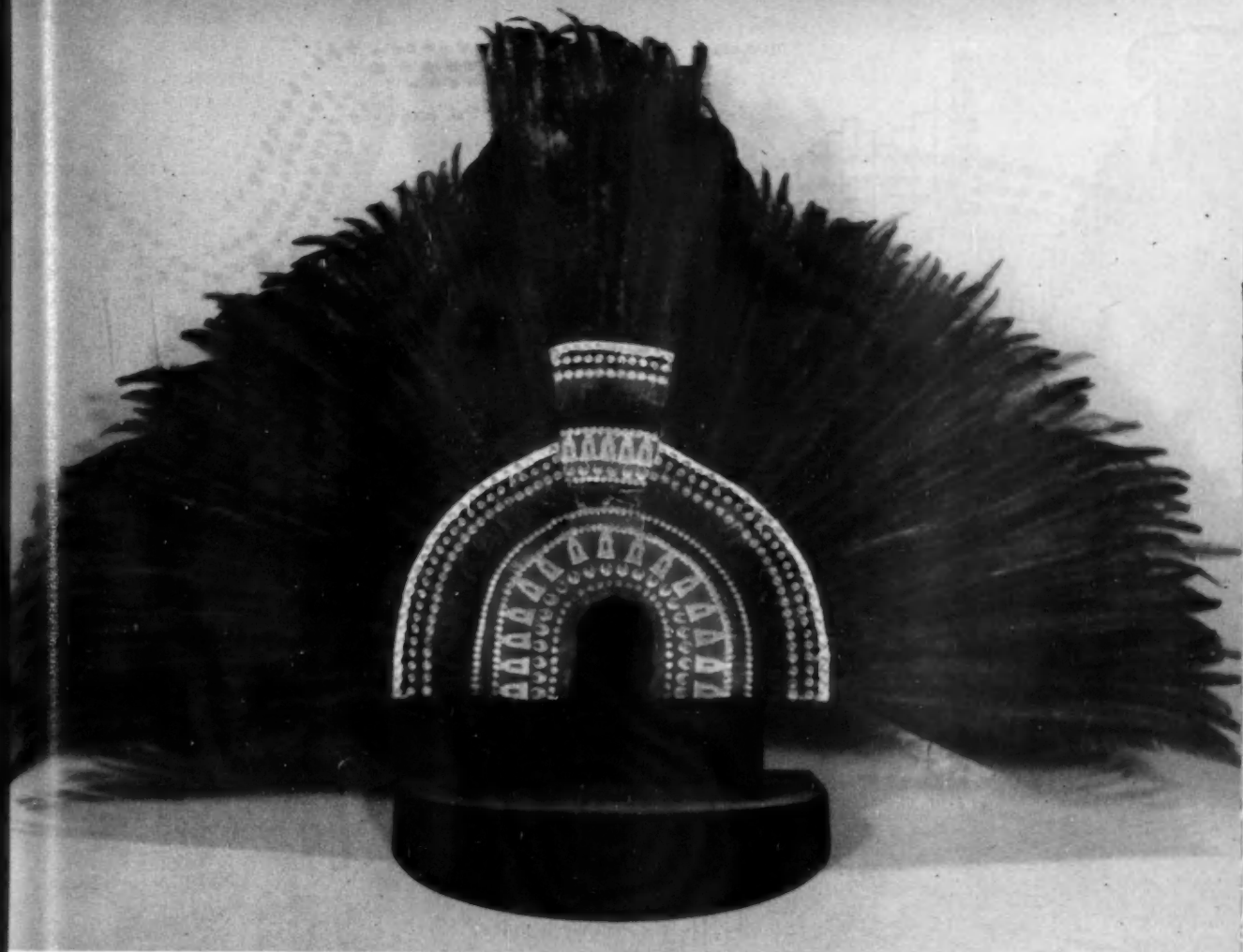
Of the several ruins dating from the Archaic period, probably the most interesting historically is Cuicuilco, a crude, round pyramid south of the city in what is now known as the Pedregal, an area covered by lava rock. Cuicuilco is the oldest pyramid in the Western Hemisphere, and seems to have been the center of a large city that was destroyed by the lava flow from the eruption of one of the nearby volcanoes. This eruption—and destruction of the city—probably happened no later than 500 B. C.

The next culture period was that of the Teotihuacana, the people who built the great pyramids at Teotihuacan. These peo-

*(Continued on page 24)*

The unusual circular pyramid at Calixtlahuaca, near Toluca, was built by prehistoric peoples apparently related to those who built the round pyramid of Cuicuilco, one of the oldest structures in the Western Hemisphere, the ruins of which can still be seen in the lava flow near Mexico City





## Plumes of Moctezuma

THE "CROWN" OF THE AZTEC EMPEROR WAS MEXICO'S FIRST GIFT TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD

A splurge of emerald green, red and gold, and with a span of more than two yards, the magnificent replica of the headgear that once adorned the head of Moctezuma, is now on display in the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City, calle Moneda 13.

The original plumed *Penacho*, his fan-like symbol of power synonymous to a crown, was given to Cortés on his arrival in Tenochtitlán by Moctezuma. The Spaniard, impressed, forthwith sent it across the sea to Carlos V, King of Spain, Emperor of Germany. Later the headdress was taken to Austria where it has been for four centuries; a prized possession of the Imperial Museum in Vienna.

Unfortunately, the genuine treasure cannot be returned to the country of its origin, so a reproduction has recently been made, authentic to the smallest detail. The long, green plumes, slender as blades, were brought from the State of Chiapas and southern Oaxaca by hunters familiar with the jungle regions, the habitat of the

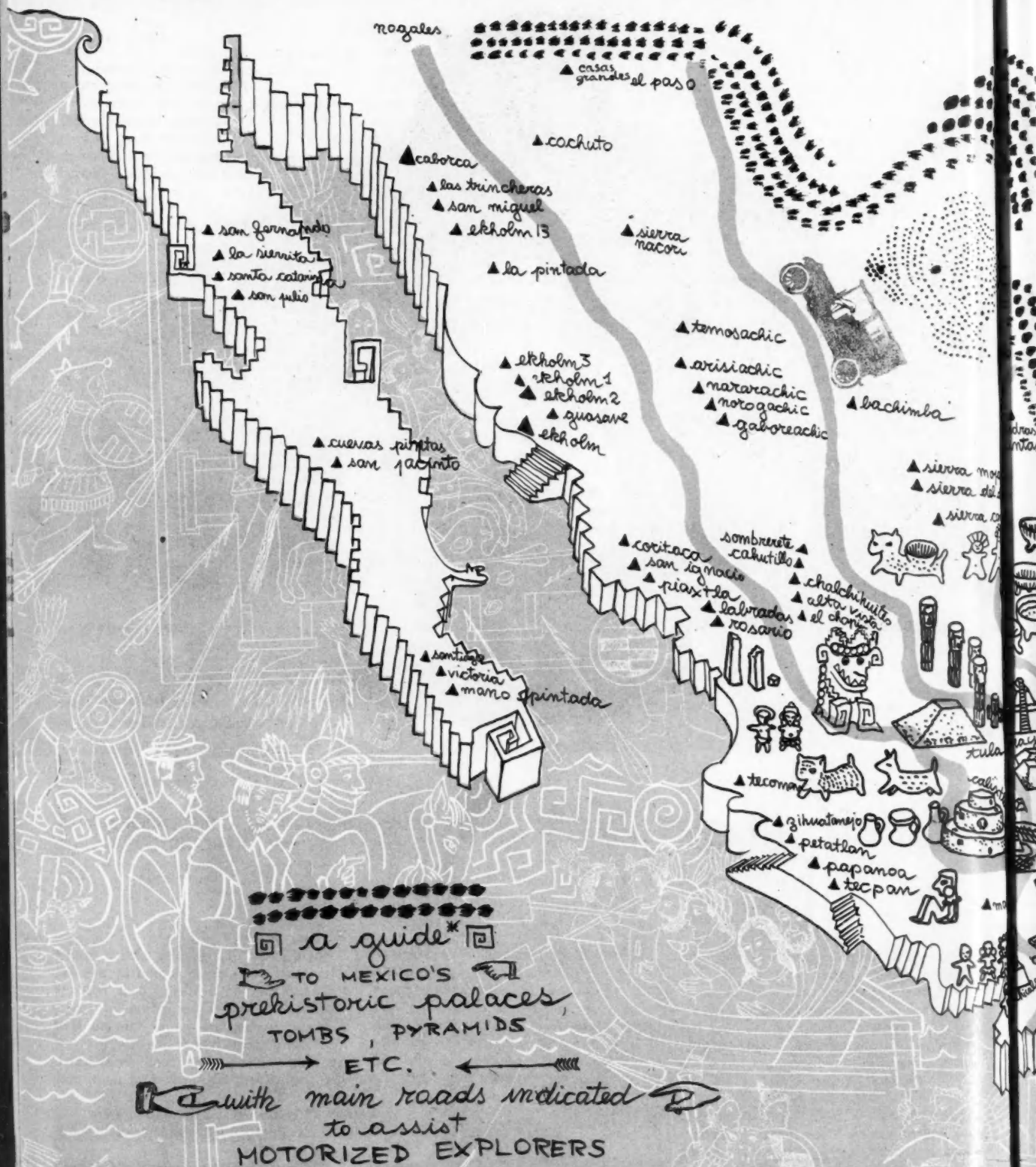
Quetzal birds. This species, almost extinct today, were considered sacred by the Aztecs and the Mayans, and their feathers were the exclusive prerogative of kings. Quetzal plumes are extra rare so that hundreds of birds had to be caught in order to obtain enough to match the original. The smaller feathers, in tints of coral and electric blue, that are used around the hood-like part of the headdress, were also plucked from birds that are scarce and difficult to find.

Another interesting feature is the gold and jade incrustation that surrounds the hood. Tiny castles, half moons and discs exquisitely wrought by expert hands are placed in semi-circles, forming an arch that

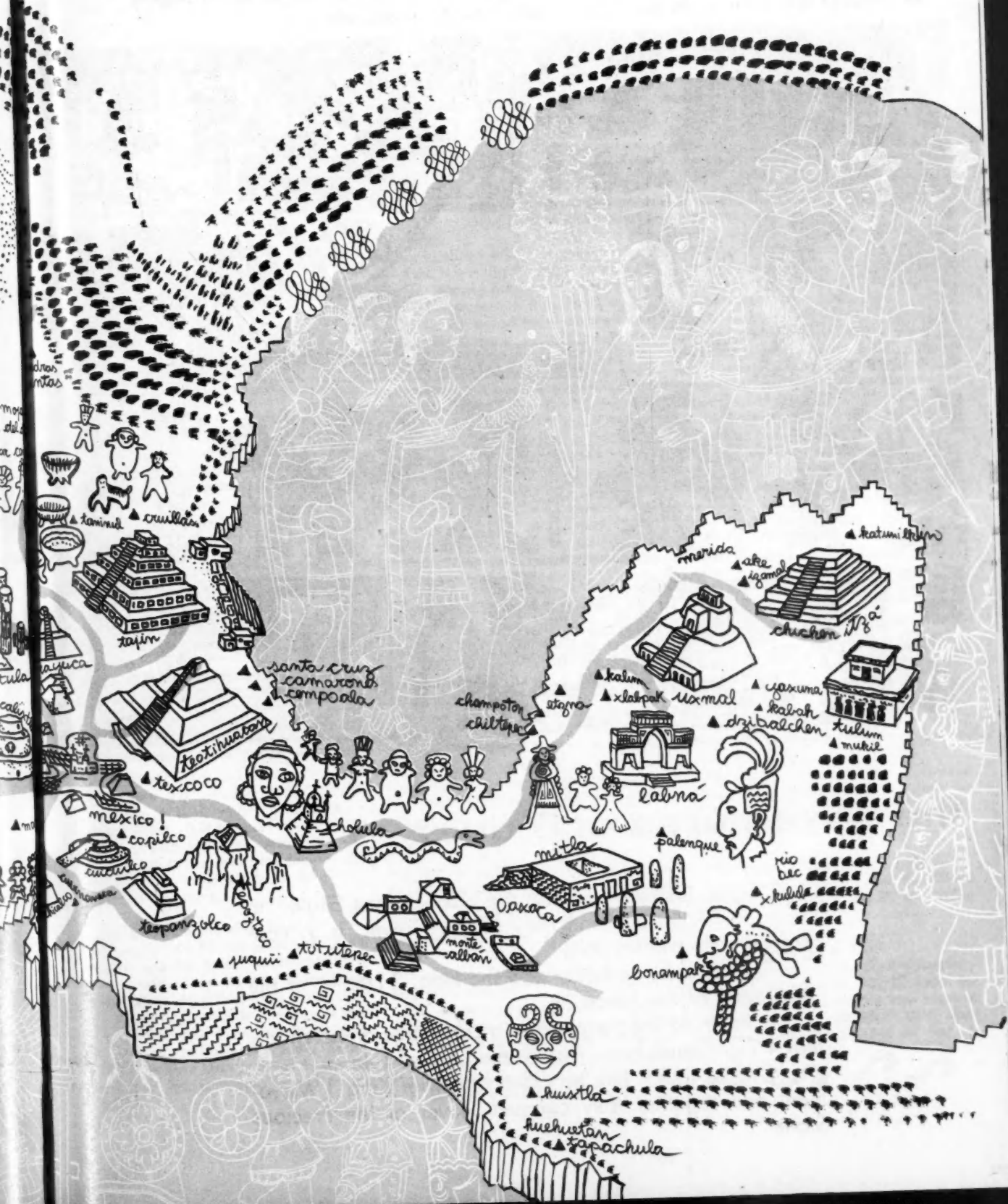
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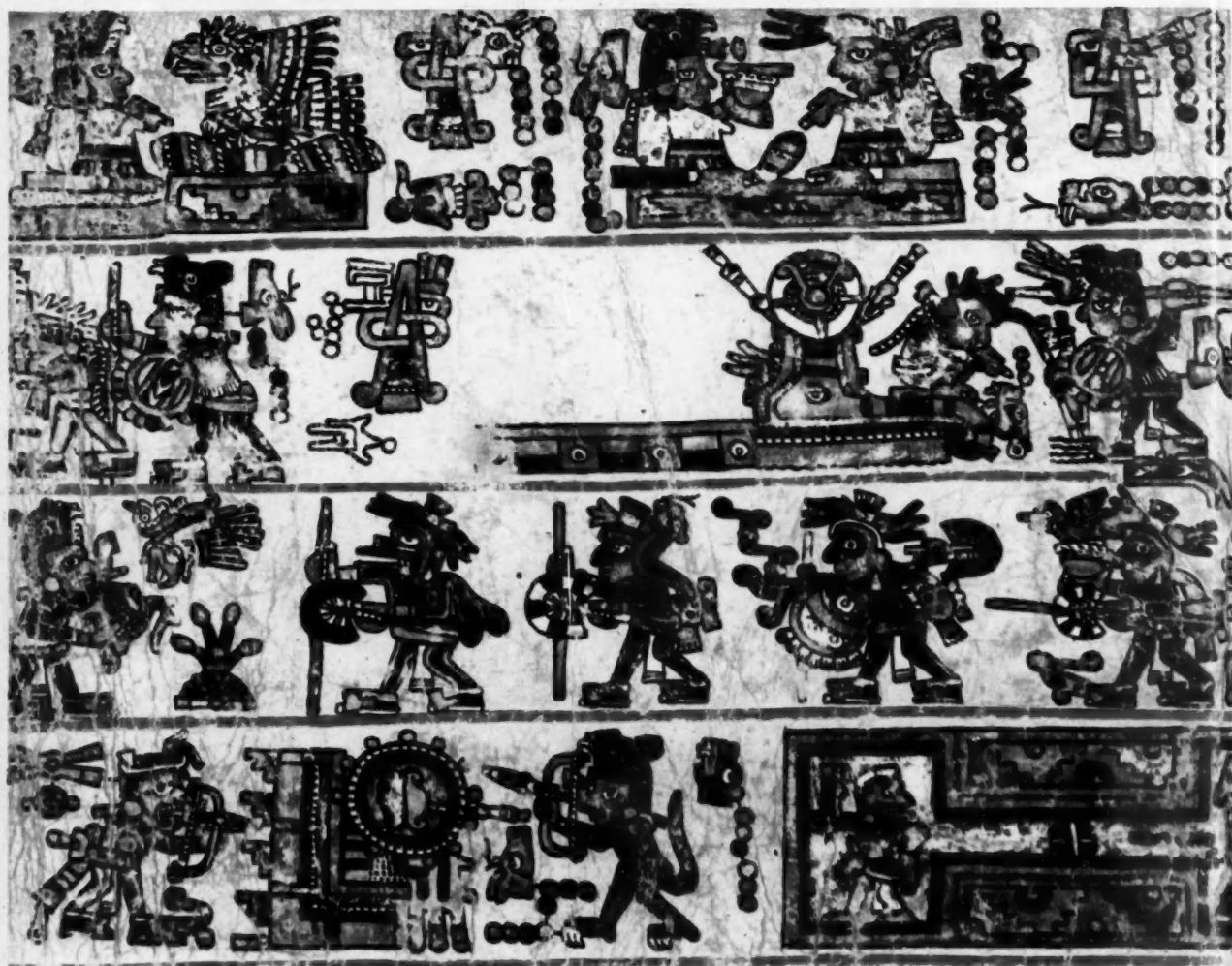
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*Dr. Alfonso Caso....*

Mexico's leading antiquities scholar lends MTM a portion of his color report on ancient Mexican codices... and tells how to read one



## the adventures of 8 deer

Above, 8 Deer, a lord of the "Place of the Eagle," in the year 12 Rabbit, ninth day of the Flower, is in conference with another lord.

Second line; he fights with the king, 3 Lizard, of the "Mountain of the Moon."

In the third line, he receives a committee of merchants that 4 Tiger sends him. Tiger is the Lord of Tula.

On the fourth line he plays ball with King 1 Movement and together they conquer "River of the Precious Stone."

## CASO on CODICES

### QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE BOURBON AND THE BODLEIAN CODICES

*We have been told that you are going to publish two codices, one in Mexico, and the other in Paris. Which ones are they?*

In Paris, the firm of Delpire is going to publish the *Códice Borbonicus*, with a commentary by myself. The Delpire publication will be in full color and I hope it will be ready by the end of the month.

The second codex, which will be published in Mexico, is the Bodleian Codex 2858, that is preserved in the Bodleian Library at the University of Oxford.

The Mexican Society of Anthropology is going to publish a complete commentary of this manuscript in both Spanish and English. This Codex will also be edited in full color. It contains 46 metal plate engravings, and it will be ready for distribution, as far as I know, by the end of this coming August at the latest.

*Could you tell me why these codices are so important?*

To begin with, the Bourbon codex, which is widely known, is of liturgic importance. It is supposed to be a resumé of what the calendar meant to the Pre-Columbian Mexicans.

The Bodleian codex has a completely different aspect. This deals with genealogy of the Mixtec kings and princes, from approximately 670, until up to the Spanish Conquest, in 1521, when the painting of codices ended. It is a beautiful manuscript, and it is also important because it contains the most accurate genealogical and historical list which exists in the entire American Continent.

*Did the Mixtecs write history?*

Naturally, the Mixtecs, as well as the Mayans and the Aztecs, wrote history. A curious attitude on the part of the Spaniards was to deny they wrote, when after all, it was the Spaniards who burned their books. Fortunately some were saved. One of these is the Bodleian Codex. Consequently we have history written 8 centuries before the first Europeans landed on the Continent.

*What does this history contain? And can you tell us something about the Mixtecs?*

The narration is merely an outline; it is a genealogical history. It mentions the princes of the different Mixtec regions. It gives their names and their surnames, the day and the year of their birth, who were their parents, their brothers and sisters, the names of their wives, the date of their marriage, where these princesses came from, the number of children they had and their births.

Now I shall try to answer your questions about the Mixtecs. This race formed not only one nation, but several principalities as well, that sprang up in the fertile valleys surrounded by unproductive mountain ranges, in the northern part of the Mixtec regions. In the south, near Tututepec, they established a powerful kingdom where they developed one of the most exquisite civilizations that evolved in Mid-America. This we can find in their paintings, in their magnificent wood work, also in their treatment of bone and semi-precious stones, and last but not least, and most especially do we find their advancement, in their gold and silver ornaments, their jewelry, silver and copper objects, very similar to the ones discovered in Tomb 7 in Monte Alban in 1932. Their ceramic and polychrome work also is of very fine quality.

*Are the two codices very well known?*

The Bourbon Codex was published by Hamy, the French scholar of the last century, with an important commentary. It was also very thoroughly studied by the Mexican philosopher, don Francisco del Paso Troncoso. His was the third interpretation. On the other hand, there was no complete interpretation of the Bodleian Codex until we were able to discover its significance a few years ago. The result of our investigations was published together with the Map of Tezacoalco, and the reverse side of the Vindobonensis Codex. A full and complete explanation of the Bodleian genealogies was here possible for the first time. We are now adding three extra parts of the Codex that had not been published before. This makes the publication complete.

*Does your interpretation of the Codex Borbonicus differ?*

No, not in any essential point. We have all agreed that it represents a ceremonial codex or a chronological codex of the Tonalpohualli, of the months, etc. My reading differs only in that it has a few additions and corrections of detail.

*Is there any particular reason, or a story in why these codices happen not to be in Mexico?*

Yes, there is a story. We think the Bourbon Codex was carried away from the Escorial Library during the Napoleonic invasion. It was later sold and it is now kept at the Bourbon Palace in Paris.

In reference to the Bodleian Codex, we do not know the exact story but the scholar J. Eric Thompson believes something that seems to me very plausible. Essex, the favorite of Queen Elizabeth of England—who according to that legend was extremely handsome and a protégé of the Virgin Queen, went sailing along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, where he raided several Spanish and Portuguese ports, including Porto de Faro (Portugal), where Bishop Hieronimus Osorius lived. Osorius had a great curiosity about anything that came from overseas, and especially new discoveries. He owned a magnificent library. Naturally, Essex plundered the Palace of Bishop Osorius and made off also with the most important books and papers in the library. Essex was a good friend of Bacon and Bodley, and it seems likely that the Codex was given by him to his illustrious friend. This is only a conjecture, but I would consider it very acceptable.

*Are these codices on paper or on deer-skin?*

The Bodleian Codex is painted on deer-skin, and Bourbon Codex on amatl paper.

*Do these have the same preparation as all other codices?*

Yes, they have prepared surfaces on which the codex is drawn and colored.

*Do you believe that these manuscripts still preserve their original colors?*

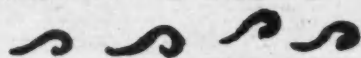
The color has been very well preserved, though in the Bodleian Codex perhaps the blues have faded into gray. The Bourbon Codex is in perfect condition.

*How many copies will you publish?*

I am not sure about the Bourbon. Of the Bodleian Codex there will be an edition of 900.

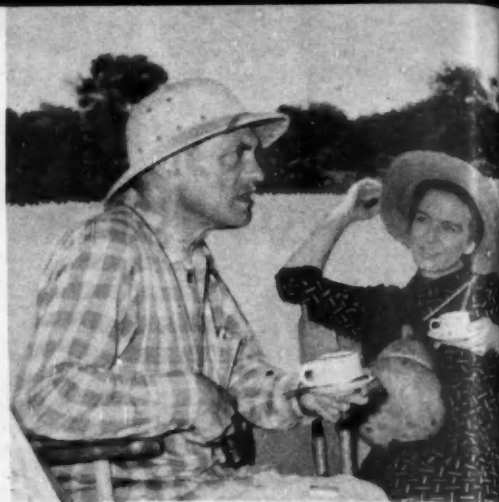
*How much will they cost?*

The Mexican Society of Anthropology has fixed the price at: \$360.00 pesos for the Bodleian Codex (or the equivalent in U. S. currency: Dls. \$30.00). I don't know yet what the Bourbon Codex will cost.





**The talent of Mexico's top movie-making team pays off: First Prize at Cannes**



Director Luis Buñuel

A MEXICAN PICTURE, "NAZARIN", directed by Luis Buñuel, captured the International Critics Award in the 1959 film festival at Cannes.

The "Nazarin" is a story in the great "Don Quijote" tradition, of man obstinately following his ideas to their furthest tenable point. This time it is the fable of a poor priest, with aspirations to sainthood, whose troubled Odyssey brings him at last to the River of Doubt and thereby to the weary acceptance of what little salvation there is.

It is not a happy story, but from the first there is no doubt that it is an absorbing one—its logic is beyond suspicion, even to Freud, upon whom, in fact, it leans heavily. In passing from the Christian idea to that of human fellowship, one might suspect that there is but the laying of the groundwork for still another Quixotic pilgrimage, ending in still another conclusion. But that, perhaps, is what life is for.

Luis Buñel fits closely to the description of the dedicated artist. He is a man of

Francisco Rabal takes the title role in this controversial picture



# NAZARIN

Rita Macedo and Aurora Molina in a tense scene of "Nazarin"



Stills from "Nazarin", Mexico's prize-winning entry in the Film Festival at Cannes



strong convictions with which he will not compromise. One of these is in the artistic importance of the film. Starting with his first picture he has steadily chosen themes of universal application, themes from which This, of course, can be dismissed as an an entire philosophy can be constructed. impossible goal but, in the sincerity and intensity of his effort, he has probably progressed more closely to this impossible goal than most of us.

The strong, well-balanced photography of "Nazarin" comes as a surprise only to those previously unacquainted with the work of Gabriel Figueroa. Long regarded as Mexico's most distinguished cameraman, he is responsible for the extraordinary camerawork which characterized such famous Mexican pictures as: Los Olvidados, (also a Buñuel film), María Candelaria, and La Perla. A constant winner of international prizes, he has garnered some fourteen of them, from such places as Cannes, Venice, Berlin, Brussels, and Karlovy-Vary.

E. G.

A child performer demands, and merits, attention in a poignant "Nazarin" scene



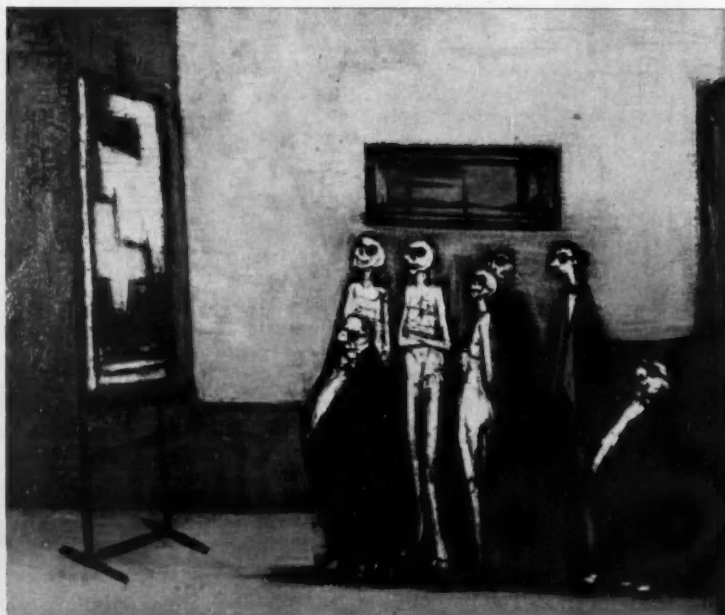


A cripple, one of Rafael Coronel's more objective paintings, is one of the highlights of his current exhibition at Bellas Artes.

In separate exhibitions, three modern artists are on show this month. Here is a report:

RAFAEL CORONEL, not to be confused with his brother Pedro, shows at the Palacio de Bellas Artes (Sala Verde). Of undoubted technical talent, the pictures as a group demonstrate indecision and a numerous array of influences: Picasso and Klee not least among them, Coronel's style being at times reduced to a "tour de force" of gloomy textures, but always with dramatic impact.

RODRIGUEZ LUNA (Palacio de Bellas Artes, Sala Nacional) of Spanish origin, is a passionate expressionist of the neater kind. He covers the fields of the animal kingdom, political, human. Lately, like many other exuberants, he has been to some extent influenced by Buffet. Worth a visit.



Critique of Critics could be the title of this satirical canvas by Rodriguez Luna.



Classic Landscape, and Deuce of Clubs, below, both oils by René Paraesce.

RENÉ PARESCÉ (1887-1937) is being posthumously honored at the Galeria Proteo. Of Italian origin, his work presents the interesting case of a highly intelligent and cultivated man who arrived at painting by way of science. Having studied physics at the University of Palermo and Bologna, he made important discoveries regarding the influence of electronics upon the spectrum. Living in Paris during the 'teens and 1920s and mixing with the then unadulterated "pure" painters of Montparnasse, his painting is, as might be expected, a pastiche of genuine cubism, late post-romanticism and a dose of his own italianate sense of the classic. However dated some of these pictures, others, especially the landscapes, are memorable for a certain quality of mystical repose and apollonian beauty.



## Plumes of Moctezuma

(Continued from page 13)

framed the Emperor's face. These ornaments were donated by prominent business men and *politicos* in Mexico City who made their contributions as a tribute to the man who long ago personified the glory, beauty, and magnificence of his people.

At one time the *Penacho* had the head of a bird with an open beak attached to the front of the hood, giving the impression of a fowl in flight.

It is quite understandable that a man of Moctezuma's calibre should wear a head piece of inordinate proportions and splendor. For, though the Emperor was a reserved and religious man, he was not humble. The court that surrounded him excelled in sumptuous living and his kingdom was the most powerful in all the territories that are the Mexico of today.

Mexico City, formerly Tenochtitlán, an island city of floating gardens had, in 1519, more than three hundred thousand inhabitants. It was larger than Madrid and Constantinople, and the Spaniards had never before seen such a strange and beautiful city nor wealth such as it contained. Moctezuma's realm was one of the richest of the world, and his court was comparable in its dazzling splendor and pomp only to the fabled potentates of the Orient. Courtiers bowed to the ground in his presence, and hundreds of servants attended to his needs. They walked backwards out of ceremonious respect to his person, and, fearing that the royal feet might be contaminated if they touched the ground, the Emperor was borne always from one place to another on a litter resplendent with gold trimmings.

His subjects called him, "Señor, My Señor, Great Señor", and they never raised their eyes to his. He was, indeed, felt to be the embodiment of divinity. He was clothed in delicately woven cotton, like fine linen. His mantle and crest were plumes, symbolic of divinity, for the green quetzal was the emblem of growth and life and creativity.



## RECENT BOOKS ON MEXICAN ARCHEOLOGY

**Firefly In The Night: A Study of Ancient Mexican Poetry and Symbolism.** By Irene Nicholson. Illustrated by Abel Mendosa. 231 pp. Faber & Faber.

The first impression that one gets of the ancient Mexican civilization is that it was a deadly theocracy saturated in its own blood, its only monuments a thousand sacrificial alters where the hearts were torn from bound and screaming victims. It is a bad impression and one which the conquering Spaniards did much to propagate for the purpose of justifying their ruthless conquest, systematically destroying all traces of the previous culture wherever they encountered it. Thus were the people deprived of every link with the past and left free to enjoy, if they could, the new European culture. Was it a superior culture? Irene Nicholson casts some doubt upon that, carefully reconstructing from many sources, the ancient religion, philosophy and literature.

**The Aztecs: People of the Sun.** By Alfonso Caso. Translated by Lowell Dunham from the Spanish, "El Pueblo del Sol." Illustrated by Miguel Covarrubias. 125 pp. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.

Dr. Alfonso Caso is regarded as Mexico's leading archaeologist and speaks with the authority of long years in the field. It was he who discovered the hidden tombs of Monte Albán, and has greatly increased our knowledge of the Nahuatl and Otomí people. His extensive knowledge is expressed the more felicitously by a clear and simple writing style, and followed faithfully by the forceful illustrations of Miguel Covarrubias.

**Art and Life in Ancient Mexico.** By Cottie A. Burland. Forty-seven Half-tone Illustrations and Many Line Drawings. 111 pp. Brønø Cassirer Pub.

While this is a book of intense popular appeal it draws from extensive sources and its text is fresh and informative. The illustrations are very well done.

**The Art of Ancient Maya.** By Alfred Kidder II and Carlos Samaya Chinchilla. Photos by Reuben Goldberg. 124 pp. Thomas Y. Crowell Co.

This is a very extensive and complete pictorial reportage of Mayan art, including many objects which I had not before had the pleasure of seeing. There are many fascinating and even beautiful specimens.

**Mexico South.** By Miguel Covarrubias, and illustrated by the Author. 427 pp. Alfred A. Knopf.

Recently reissued, this book stands in a class by itself for its understanding of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and its people, their legends and history. Also there is much of their present day descendants.

**Mexican Folkways: The Customs - Myths - Folklore - Traditions - Beliefs - Fiestas - Dances and Songs of the Mexican People.** By Frances Toor. 10 Color Plates - 100 Drawings by Carlos Mérida. 165 Photographs. 566 pp. Crown Publishers, Inc.

As may be imagined, this is an ambitious attempt to give all of Mexico in one book. It does succeed in giving very much although in actual archeological interest it is a bit short. However, as a companion book, it is eminently worth reading.

# The Tlalocs Were With Us

Of the times I have climbed the Pyramid of the Sun at Teotihuacan the most vivid memory is a visit in the company of a professor of archeology and classmates from the Escuela de Verano.

For this trip had a ceremonial aspect. The professor wanted to test a theory. The day was July 26, the supposed Toltec New Year. If the professor's theory of the orientation of the pyramid was correct, the rays of the setting sun should fall exactly in the middle of the western stairway of the pyramid of the sun. His calculations indicated that the structure was designed to face the setting sun on the day when it crossed the zenith in that latitude.

A countess-student furnished the car, and dispensed excellent brandy all around. We paused at the village to enable two young men to sample pulque. Their verdict was that one sample was enough.

Finally, we climbed the four great tiers of stairs, first the rectangular bare plat-

very nearly centered. But not quite. Nevertheless, the professor was tremendously excited. They must have centered, he thought, when the pyramid was built. By measuring this slight deviation it might be possible to compute the age of the pyramid. He would come another July 26 with more accurate instruments—or perhaps the deviation was due only to faulty reconstruction? The reconstructed portion might not be accurate to the original orientation. From the top the smaller rectangular structure at the base did appear a bit out of line with the main body of the pyramid. It is a simpler explanation.

For myself, I felt we had come near enough to establishing the theory. I was told when revisiting the pyramids that their age had been calculated by the condition of timbers recovered from the interior at the base.

On the crumbled summit we gathered the little wild flower called girasol because

## A fact-finding expedition sets out to see if ancient Toltec astronomers knew what they were doing

form of Quetzalcoatl (not to be confused with his temple and quadrangle nearby) and then up those broad, then narrow stairways set off from each other in stupendous architectural concept. We set up a cane at the first level as a sun dial for the preliminary test. On the worn adobe beside it among scattered shards lay a fragment of an obsidian knife. But the shadow was still nearing the center. We continued upward to the partly reconstructed platform at the top, where the temple once stood, and there remained until sunset. Around us lay the Valley of Mexico, dark with clouds and striped with rain. Lightning flashed above the city far away. Only at Teotihuacan did the sun shine; its level rays fell upon the great stair. We set up the cane again, and we waited.

At seven came the last rays. They were

it holds its face to the journeying sun all day. And its face, like a daisy with a brown center, still repeats to the Toltec sun a symbol of itself.

Our older sun dropped in splendor behind the mountains. A pale moon appeared. Clouds in the north glowed in the afterlight—streaked and piled, the painted pottery of heaven. Beside us, we knew, stood ghosts of others who had thrilled to this sight 2,000 years ago.

As we climbed down in the dusk, I remarked on the coincidence that on a day of cloud and rain, the sun had favored only the Pyramid of the Sun.

"It is a good omen," said the professor, smiling. "The Tlalocs favor us. When we get back to the city, let us all buy tickets in the National Lottery."

But when we got back to the city we (of little faith) forgot. Next time...

Clifford Gessler

the adventures of 1 gessler as codiced by pedro friederberg.



# New look at eternity

(Continued from page 12)

ple produced many fine works of art and apparently had trade routes that extended beyond the central plateau. Eventually, probably toward the end of the Ninth Century, they were succeeded by the Tolteca who either conquered or absorbed them, established domination over the Valley of Mexico and carried on their artistic growth. A couple of hundred years later the wandering Aztec tribes began settling in the Valley and in time absorbed and dominated the Tolteca.

The most important of these tribes was the Mexica (may-SHEE-ka) who founded the city of Tenochtitlan on the islands in the lake, in the year 1325. A hundred years later they were the most powerful city-state in Middle America, and by the time Cortes and his conquering Spaniards landed at Veracruz in 1519, their conquests extended over the whole plateau and east to the Gulf and south to the Pacific. So important were they that the Spanish called the whole country Mexico—the land of the Mexica.

And so when Tenochtitlan fell to Cortes and his Indian allies in 1521, the great Indian civilization ended. The Colonial period was the beginning of modern Mexico, with its double heritage of Indian and Spanish cultures.

## RECENT DISCOVERIES

by Ramón Piña Chan  
Director of Archeology, I. N. A. H.

**LABNÁ, Yucatán.**—In the mountainous district known as Puuc, whose brushy vegetation contrasts markedly with that of the surrounding flatlands, one finds the ceremonial center of Labná. The architecture thereof is both unique and personal. Furthermore, it is an exceptionally beautiful example of Mayan construction.

Vegetation and time, the implacable enemies of archeological ruins, have considerably damaged the noteworthy Arch of Labná, but in the short time devoted to its reconstruction, it can now be seen almost complete, as the prize of Mayan architecture that it is.

The main facade of the Arch, done in the decorative style of the phase known as Puuc-Chenes, greatly surpasses the stylization shown by the usual Mayan home. With its intercalations of latticework panels, it has at the same time achieved a monumental aspect by no more than the shape of the moulding alone.

The construction of the passage arches such as those of Labná and Uxmal, occurs after the apogee of the ceremonial centers of the classical period; there being also entrance arch-ways from one city to another, as occurs in Kabah.

**TULA, Hidalgo.**—Not far from the arid desert of Mezquital, in the lands frequented by the nomadic tribes known as "teochichimecas" or "authentic vagabonds", and near the Tula River, in ancient times stood the city of Tollan Xicoctitlan of the Toltecs; a place of semi-barbaric magnificence.

It is world famous for its colossal statues, and for the architectural influence it exerted upon Chichen Itza. This city did not give a clear example of its structural lines, precisely for not having reconstructed completely the buildings that evinced such similarity, for example the serpentine columns, the chocmoles, the colonnades, etc.

Among the most important buildings of this city, Friar Bernardino de Sahagun describes one "... although they did not finish it, that which is called Coatlaquetzalli, which is of columns in the form of snakes with their heads on the ground and their tails above..." referring perhaps to the temple which the archeologists have designated by the name of Temple or Pyramid of Tlahuizcalpantecutli (God of Dawn or Planet Venus).

During several years of excavation the archeological evidence accumulated until it was possible to determine the aspect of this building; proceeding from then on to plan its reconstruction.

At present the body of the pyramid has been filled and rebuilt, the colosi have again been set in their places as well as the pilasters which sustained the ceiling of the upper sanctuary, and the serpentine columns which gave entrance to the place are now being repositioned, with the intention of later reconstructing part of the temple, so that the visitor may have a picture of how the building originally appeared.

This work and the repositioning of a great number of pilasters which cradled this structure, has had the result that the Toltecan metropolis presents a greater grandeur, at the same time that one has the feeling of being in front of the temple of the Warriors of Chichen Itza, Yucatan, except that it is distinguished by the serenity of the countryside of the Altiplano.

**CASAS GRANDES, Chihuahua.**—On a vast semi-desert plain covered with cactus, there lay buried by the dust and rubbish of buildings, the ruins of the town called Casas Grandes.

Up to a few years ago, the site was only known by its magnificent ceramics, red on brown or black on white and for its animal and vegetable forms represented on their pottery; this pottery being similar to the kind found in the Salado region in the Northern part of Arizona. Under the circumstances, it was agreed that this site was occupied by some group that had close relations with the cultures known as Mogollon, Anazasi and Hohokam.

Nevertheless, due to the joint explorations carried on by the Amerind Foundation, Inc. of Dragoon, Arizona and the National Institute of Anthropology and History, of Mexico, we now have a new series of data enabling us to know the culture of Casas Grandes much better and in which can readily be seen the influence of the Southeast of the United States, together with other traits truly Mesoamerican.

In these excavations the most outstanding thing found was a great ball court, whose construction is typical of Mesoamerica, but with the walls somewhat rounded; which indicates that the ideas of the high civilization of Mexico passed on, without a doubt, to the groups in the United States.

The site of Casas Grandes has also shown the existence of structures or buildings with various rooms, made of mud and at times consisting of various stories and numerous rooms, as also some ovens for the elaboration of "mezcal"; a sort of altar in the shape of a cross and with a circular building at each end; burials under the floors of the houses or inside the rooms; offerings of ceramics and copper objects, etc., all of which will enable us to know more intimately how the old inhabitants of Casas Grandes lived.

The above mentioned excavations are being done by technicians of the Direccion de Monumentos Prehispanicos de Mexico, such as the archeologists: Cesar Saenz, Jorge Acosta and Eduardo Contreras, the latter of whom actively collaborates with Dr. Charles Di Peso in the works being carried on by the Amerind Foundation of Arizona in Chihuahua.

A recent discovery, in a cave near Hermosillo, Sonora, of a number of mummies, is now being investigated by the Archeological Institute, from whom an announcement is expected shortly. This may be a find of historical importance.



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## how to get to archeology sites

If you are genuinely interested in archeology, you won't mind the discomfort which may be attendant upon some visits to the more remote spots. Note to drivers: a kilometer is  $\frac{5}{8}$  of a mile.

**TULA—How To Get There:** Drive out the Laredo highway to Actopan at Kilometer 119. From here you take the side road to the left which takes you to TULA, a distance of approximately 57 kilometers. There is also a train.

**Where To Stay:** The Dawn Motel, just past the bull ring on the road to Queretaro is the only place for you to stop.

**TAJIN—How To Get There:** From Papantla, on the Mexico-Veracruz highway. Nine kilometers north of Papantla you will find the ruins of EL TAJIN; these nine kilometers are on a dirt road which is passable in dry weather, but not recommended during the rainy season.

**Where To Stay:** The Hotel Tajin.

**SAN JUAN TEOTIHUACAN—How To Get There:** Drive north on Avenida Insurgentes (Mexico City) and at kilometer 27 of the Laredo Highway to the right, you will find a paved side road of about 25 kilometers in length which will take you to the Pyramids. On this road you will pass the beautiful Augustinian Convent of Acolman, which is well worth stopping to see.

**Where To Stay:** In the hotel of your choice in Mexico City, but since this is really an all day excursion, there are a couple of places for lunch: The famous GROTTTO, where they serve a very delicious mole; and LUNA PARK, which specializes in typical Mexican dishes. Mr. Luna has been catering to Americans in Mexico for a great many years, so you can be sure that the food is clean and well prepared, as well as tasty.

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## Our own Directory

### TENAYUCA — How To Get There:

This pyramid is only fourteen (14) kilometers from Mexico City; you take Avenida Insurgentes north as far as the "Monument" and from there, northeast, the road to Tlalnepantla which takes you to TENAYUCA.

**Where To Stay:** Mexico City.

### TEPOZTECO — How To Get There:

Take the Cuernavaca road, either the toll road or the old road; four kilometers before Cuernavaca you come to Buenavista; from here you take the 17 kilometer paved road which takes you to TEPOZTLAN, where these ruins are. You have to climb.

**Where To Stay:** The Posada del Tepozteco (under American management) a beautiful inn, with a fine view of the valley and of the Tepozteco Pyramids above. Call LARRY BROOKWELL at Tepoztlan No. 1 for reservations; the place is small and popular.

### CALIXTLAHUACA — How To Get There:

Take the Toluca highway as far as Ixtlahuaca, 9 kilometers northeast of the city of Toluca; turn off here to the left onto road to the ruins.

**Where To Stay:** If you stay in Toluca, the HOTEL SAN CARLOS in the center of town is the only really comfortable one. You can, of course, combine this Pyramid with Friday market in Toluca, and then return to Mexico City; it is a three-hour drive, however, so you might prefer the San Carlos.

### MALINALCO — How To Get There:

Take the Toluca road to the junction with the road to Ixtapan de la Sal; this to Tenancingo, where you turn off for Malinalco. This is re-

commended only during dry weather, and the best way to get to Malinalco really is on a horse; the ride takes about two hours (from Tenancingo) and it's fun. Horses can be hired at Tenancingo.

**Where To Stay:** In Ixtapan de la Sal, which is a hot springs resort, THE KISS HOTEL has good accommodations and food. You can combine a course of therapeutic baths with your pyramids; and Ixtapan is a charming town. And think of the postcards from a hotel with a name like that!

### KOCHICALCO—How To Get There:

Either the Mexico-Acapulco highway to Alpuca at Kilometer 100 and then the road to the Grotto of Cacahuamilpa, where at Kilometer 8 you come to the side road (3 kilometers long) which leads to the ruins; or you can continue from Ixtapan de la Sal direct to the Grotto. The Pyramid is in the grotto neighborhood.

**Where To Stay:** Cuernavaca would seem to be the indicated place to stay, and the hotels are numerous and good, ranging all the way from de luxe to pension.

### COMALCALCO—How To Get There:

Compañía Mexicana de Aviación has two flights daily (7 am. and 12:30 pm.) to Villa Hermosa which will be your headquarters for Comalcalco.

**Where To Stay:** The Hotel Manzur is reasonably comfortable. When you make your reservation for your plane ticket, CMA will also reserve a room for you there.

**LA VENTA—How To Get There:** As a matter of fact, you are probably not going to La Venta at all; practically everything of importance found at La Venta can now be seen in a perfectly charming museum set in the middle of lovely gardens in Villa Hermosa itself, so that you can combine this with Comalcalco. Getting to La Venta is a real project, though a very interesting one. It involves hours on a river in a dug-out canoe with an outboard motor.

### MONTE ALBAN — How to Get There:

You can either drive to Oaxaca, or fly, or go on the train (an overnight trip). The ruins

*Ask the man who's been there*

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of MONTE ALBAN are about twenty minutes drive from Oaxaca City.

**Where To Stay:** The Hotel Victoria is the newest, and has a swimming pool. If you drive, you might prefer to be at the Oaxaca Courts.

**MITLA — How To Get There:** Mitla is 39 kilometers southeast of Oaxaca City, on the Cristóbal Colón Highway to Guatemala. Turn left after you pass Tlacolula; the ruins are about five kilometers from here.

**Where To Stay:** Oaxaca City.

**PALENQUE—How To Get There:** You take the CMA plane to Villahermosa and then a local airline will ferry you to Palenque (State of Chiapas.)

**Where To Stay:** The only place to stay in Palenque is with a gentleman named La Croix who runs what might be called a boarding house. As for eating, you go to the square in the middle of town and find DOÑA SARA, who will feed you adequately if not elegantly. With enough notice, she can do a pretty good chicken dinner, and various native style creations.

**BONAMPAK—How To Get There:** The Southern Circuit of the Pan American Highway will take you to San Cristóbal de las Casas in the State of Chiapas, which is the only

place to stay if you're not a camper and jungle traveler. If you don't want to drive to Las Casas, you can fly to Villahermosa and then to San Cristóbal by local CMA.

**Where To Stay:** There is a small, picturesque hotel or rather inn and a famous archeologist, Franz Blom, takes in paying



guests. He is a charming man with a delightful house; a telegram will make your reservation for you.

**CASAS GRANDES — How To Get There:** Here is one archeological monument that you can probably visit more easily from the States than from Mexico. If you stayed in El Paso, Texas, or Ciudad Juárez, you could drive to Casas Grandes, which is in the state of Chihuahua. Archeologically though, it is very closely linked with the Indian Civilizations of the Southwestern United States.

**Where To Stay:** It is hardly necessary to list hotels for you in El Paso, since you can be extremely comfortable almost anywhere you stay.

**CHICHEN ITZA—How To Get There:** In spite of the fact that everybody keeps telling me you can drive to Mérida, you'd probably be a lot more comfortable if you flew CMA to Mérida. From here you can drive out to Chichén Itzá.

**Where To Stay:** There are two hotels in Chichén Itzá: one is the Hotel Mérida and the other is the Hotel Colón. You won't be living in the lap of luxury, but they're adequate and the pyramids are well worth it.

**UXMAL—How To Get There:** Fly to Mérida; from here drive. Check into local flight possibilities also.

**Where To Stay:** In Mérida you may choose between the Hotel Mérida which is unglamorous but comfortable, reasonable, and the food is good, or the Mayaland which is probably the most famous hotel in Mérida with beautiful gardens, typical Yucatecan thatched cabins and fancy but not always good food. Expensive. There are restaurants in the plaza—and don't miss the coconut milk and other such iced-fruit drinks.

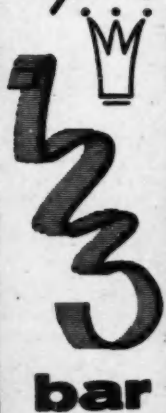
**LABNA-CABAH-SAYIL—How To Get There:** Drive from Mérida.

**Where To Stay:** See above.

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## the Knife and Fork

by Barbara de Zouche Palmer



### chocolate, and how!

So you think you know something about chocolate just because you've dropped into the corner drug store for a steaming mug of the stuff on occasion... and maybe you do. But what we're going to talk about this month of July is MEXICAN CHOCOLATE, just as good when the snow flies as when the sun shines hot.

Of course, our visiting gringa isn't expected to do much fussing about the kitchen while she's here in Mexico on a holiday. But for her sisters, cousins and aunts stateside we serve up this offering Aztec style so that when comes the day when

they too are Mexico bent, they'll know beforehand what to expect.

For our new tourist friends, this method and background of chocolate will help you understand the ancient country in which you are a guest.

Before we get into the HOW of making chocolate mexicano, please remember that it was originally the food of the Aztec gods, gentlemen hard to please, and later introduced to the rest of the world by the Spanish conquerors. And not that it matters a darn, but cocoa was originally called *cacahuatl* (and don't try to pronounce it), the Mayas called it *kaká*, the Italians, Portuguese and Dutch called it *kakao*, the Spanish elected *cacao* and it finally became as we know it, *cocoa*.

And anyway you pour it, it's delicious, American or Mexican style. So highly, in-

cidentally, did the ancient Aztecs regard this food, that the nobles restricted it to their exclusive use believing it to possess most of the powers of our modern quack medicines. With or without this buildup, at least we are certain that you'll have a ball back in the states when you surprise your guests with a steaming mug of our style of hot chocolate.

If you want to guild the lily, take your chocolate as many of the Mexicans do; one swallow of chocolate and "chase" with a swallow of cold milk.

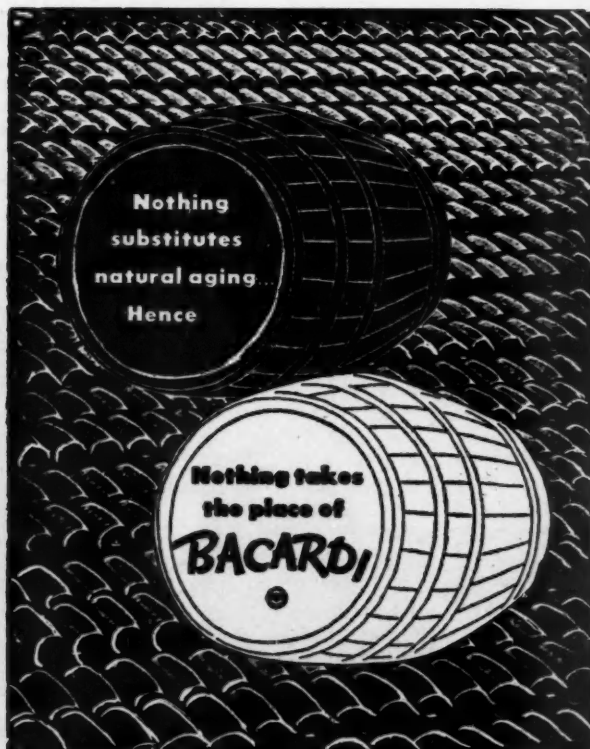
Don't be afraid of serving a mug of the stuff to that great big brute of a husband (or sweetheart) of yours either. He'll love it. We are told that it's a great pick-me-up for that morning after the night before feeling and much better than a "hair of the dog that bit you".

### CHOCOLATE MEXICANO

For each cup desired, put one tablet of already sweetened chocolate in one cup of water. Wait until the tablet (or tablets) dissolves. Put the pot on to boil.

Now then, this is a must, so don't think you can substitute what you may have at home by way of utensils for the Mexican *molinillo*. Don't let that word throw you, because if you've arrived this far in Mexico, you must have seen thousands of these gadgets in the various markets of the Republic. It's a many ringed twirler with a fat round end. As your chocolate begins to boil start twirling, girls, and keep twirling. Soon the brown chocolate will begin to foam, and when it does remove it from the fire and allow it to subside. Do this three times.

Take the pan from the fire and beat the chocolate hard with the *molinillo*. Twirl like crazy, the exercise is good exercise for the upper arms and makes your chocolate mexicano just perfectly delicious. Beat until the whole thing is frothy and foamy, serve at once, hot and mouthwatering.



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